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FRIEL-105

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By: [Signature]

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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DANIEL D. FRIEL, ET AL. :  
: Group Art Unit 3723  
SERIAL NO.: 10/803,419 :  
:   
FILED: 3/18/04 : Examiner: Hadi Shakeri  
:   
FOR: PRECISION MEANS FOR SHARPENING:   
AND CREATION OF MICROBLADES :   
ALONG CUTTING EDGES :  
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Hon. Commissioner of Patents  
and Trademarks  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

ELECTION

Sir:

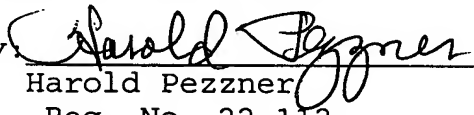
In response to the Restriction Requirement of March 14, 2005, applicants elect the invention of Group I directed to the conditioning apparatus and corresponding method. In accordance with the requirement for election of species applicants elect Species A of Figures 13-16A. The claims readable on the elected group and elected specie are independent claims 11, 54 and 53, as well as dependent claims 2-10, 12, 15, 44-52, 55 and 56. It is noted that although claim 45 is readable on non-elected Species B

and more particularly Figure 24, claim 45 is also readable on the elected species with regard to Figure 16A. It is also noted that the elected dependent claims include claim 52 which is dependent on elected parent claim 54. Claim 52, however, adds to claim 54 the feature of the conditioning apparatus being a conditioning station in a knife sharpener having at least one sharpening station. Finally, it is noted that claim 53, which is a method claim, is properly part of Group I, as indicated by Examiner Shakeri, in that it relates to steps performed in connection with conditioning.

It is respectfully submitted that all of the claims herein, and in particular the elected claims should be allowed for the reasons submitted in the prior amendment which was mailed to the PTO on February 17, 2005.

Respectfully submitted,

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